

### **Statement on the National Economy** *September 25, 1998*

Today, we received more proof that our economic strategy is working to deepen America's prosperity and widen the circle of opportunity to more American families. Over the past year, personal incomes have increased 5.0 percent—much faster than the rate of inflation. While our economic progress is strong, now is not a time to rest; it is a time to build.

To keep our economy on the right track, we must maintain our three-part economic strategy. We must maintain our fiscal discipline by reserving every penny of the budget surplus until we have strengthened Social Security. We must continue to invest in our people through education, health care, and research and development. And we have to continue to lead the global economy and meet our obligation to the International Monetary Fund.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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#### **September 20**

In the morning, the President attended a brunch for Representative Donald Payne of New Jersey aboard the cruise ship *Spirit of Washington* at Pier 4 in Southwest.

In the early evening, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to New York City. Later, the President met with Prime Minister Romano Prodi of Italy at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

#### **September 21**

The President announced his intention to nominate David Michaels to be Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety, and Health at the Department of Energy.

The President announced his intention to nominate Eljay B. Bowron to be Inspector General of the Department of the Interior.

The President announced his intention to nominate William B. Bader to be Associate Director of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Information Agency.

The President declared an emergency in the U.S. Virgin Islands and ordered Federal aid to supplement territory and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Georges on September 21 and continuing.

The President declared an emergency in Puerto Rico and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Georges on September 21 and continuing.

The White House announced that Prime Minister Viktor Orban of Hungary will make a working visit to Washington on October 7.

#### **September 22**

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

#### **September 23**

In the morning, the President met with President Nelson Mandela of South Africa in the President's Study.

In the afternoon, the President met separately with Head of State Abdulsalam Abubakar of Nigeria and with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore in the Oval Office.

The President announced his intention to appoint Daniel L. Doctoroff as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

The President declared a major disaster in Texas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding associated with Tropical Storm Frances beginning and September 9 and continuing.

The President declared a major disaster in Louisiana and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Tropical Storm Frances beginning September 9 and continuing.

#### **September 24**

In the afternoon, the President hosted a working lunch for Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia in the Old Family Dining